United States Senate

January 17, 2023

COMMITTEES

ARMED SERVICES

COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND

HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND

HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL

SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

The Honorable Isabel Guzman Administrator U.S. Small Business Administration 409 3rd Street, SW Washington DC 20416

Dear Administrator Guzman:

I write today to strongly encourage the Small Business Administration (SBA) to establish a Veteran Business Outreach Center (VBOC) in Nevada. The SBA manages 22 Veteran Business Outreach Centers across the country, which act as one-stop shops for transitioning servicemembers, veterans, and military spouses to start or grow their small business. Nearly ten percent of Nevadans are veterans, who have served our country proudly and deserve access to the resources and support needed to become small business owners. However, despite the fact that Nevada is home to thousands of servicemembers and nearly 250,000 veterans, there is not currently a VBOC in Nevada. VBOCs provide critical entrepreneurial resources to veteran communities, and so therefore, I urge the SBA to establish a VBOC in Nevada as soon as possible.

Veteran Business Outreach Centers play an important role in helping veterans in the communities where centers are located reach their business goals through training, workshops, and mentoring. These centers provide expert training on how to start and scale up businesses as well as tailored business counseling. VBOCs also offer transitioning servicemembers "Boots to Business", an entrepreneurial education and training program that would be incredibly beneficial for the transitioning servicemembers at Nevada's four military installations. Establishing a Veteran Business Outreach Center in my state would support our approximately 23,500 veteranowned businesses, build upon our flourishing small business community, and ultimately boost our economy on a local and state level.

Small businesses are the backbone of our communities and I kindly ask the SBA to consider my request to establish a Veteran Business Outreach Center in Nevada. I look forward to working with you on this matter and ensuring the success of veteran-owned small businesses. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jacky Rosen

United States Senator

RENO OFFICE